Daily Devotion #174

**Keep Moving**

**Galatians 6:9 (NASB)** “Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

What seems like a lifetime ago, I played high school basketball. Our team was so so. About fifty percent most years. But one thing we were good at was conditioning. We had an assistant coach who was a marine who loved to yell at us and make us run, run, run. One of the things he often repeated was, “Don’t cheat your body.”. I can still hear him yelling as we did suicides up and down the court. And that was after the regular practice.

It’s amazing what you can learn from things like that about life. Sports taught me that life is going to be a lot like being in the fourth quarter; your team is down by only a few points, and the clock is not being your friend. It’s at those moments when the real players shine - the guys or girls who give their all at each practice, who hang in there to the last minute, and who usually win the game for the team.

The lesson I have learned from times when life is not looking the best or control seems to be lost or stamina is just not there, is that is when we must dig deep for the inner strength and determination to keep moving - to keep our eyes on the task at hand, forget about what has gone wrong, and focus on the fundamentals and preparation that have been put into life.

When Paul wrote this letter to the Galatian churches, he knew they were strggling to continue being the people they needed to be and the people God wanted them to be. Most of the churches Paul started or ministered to had times when either persecution or some issue was happening in their midst. Much of what those churches went through was more than most people ever deal with. In fact, the threats they often had against them were literally life threatening.

Paul knew that the churches needed encouragement. And the best thing to give them was a vision of the future - a reminder of what was waiting for them. He knew that when we get our eyes on the moment, we often lose heart. We forget what we are fighting for and it often becomes more personal and about us than it does about Jesus.

Living life for Jesus is the best life anyone could ever have even though it can be challenging at times. We have an enemy who wants nothing more than to destroy us and keep as many people from God’s kingdom as possible. If he can discourage us to keep us from reaching others and living the life of godliness that we should and need to be living, he will do it.

So beloved, as we look at our crazy world, don’t despair. We are going though some challenging times as a nation and we, as God’s people, are being looked at more and more like we are the ones who have lost our minds. But remember, we have the mind of Christ, our Creator and our God. (1 Corinthians 2:16) The God of all the universe. He has given us the ability to see truth because He is truth. (John 14:6)

When you feel like giving up because it just doesn’t seem like anything is making a difference. Keep moving! Keep doing what you know to do. Keep being a witness for Jesus. It is the fourth quarter and we are down a few points, but hang in there, remember what your purpose is in this life - to glorify God in all you do and say. There are souls who need Jesus, and you and I are the avenues through which the Holy Spirit will work. God is not off His throne. His plan is unfolding perfectly. We are safe. Don’t grow weary in the things you can’t fix; instead focus on the next thing, the next person, the next assignment from God, and He will get us through.